MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 AUGUST 1981

Libyan-U.S. Clash

Pilots Interview, Radio Conversation--Tripoli radio broadcast an "interview" with the Libyan pilots allegedly involved in the U.S.-Libyan air battle over the Gulf of Sidra. One pilot reiterated the Libyan claim that U.S. planes intercepted the Libyan jets while they were carrying out a reconnaissance mission. He said the U.S. planes "engaged" and "attacked" them, and he claimed to have shot down an F-14 with an air-to-air missile. JANA reported that Libyan television broadcast a radio conversation between an American pilot and the aircraft carrier Nimitz, monitored and recorded by Libya, in which the pilot said he could not find "his drowned American fellow pilot" and requested permission to stop the search operation.

Libyan Reaction to Incident--Accusing the U.S. Administration of "international terrorism," Tripoli's Voice of the Arab Homeland radio said the United States has been defeated in the Gulf of Sidra just as it lost in the "Gulf" of Pigs and suffered "shame and disgrace" in the Gulf of Tonkin. Tripoli radio said that as a result of the U.S. "aggression" against Libya, "the masks have fallen from the faces of the terrorists leading the U.S. Administration." It described the incident as "premeditated and planned beforehand" and said it was part of a conspiracy involving Egypt and Sudan. Citing statements by Exxon and Conoco spokesmen, it also reported that U.S. oil companies operating in Libya have rejected a U.S. Government appeal for Americans to leave Libya. According to Paris radio, the Libyan People's Bureau chief in Paris said Libya will not take reprisals against the 2,500 Americans living in the country. In a radio interview, the Libyan diplomat also accused the United States of aiming to "physically liquidate" Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Meanwhile, according to JANA, the Libyan leader arrived in Ethiopia on an official visit. JANA also reported that in a speech made in the PDRY prior to his departure for Addis Ababa, Al-Qadhdhafi criticized Arab regimes for pouring oil into the United States and Britain "to operate the arms factories which destroy our Arab nation." In his reported remarks he made no mention of the U.S.-Libyan air battle, but emphasized that Arab oil should be "for the Arabs." According to EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY, a Libyan diplomat in Abu Dhabi has said his country will use the oil weapon against the United States.

Egyptian Denial of Maneuvers, Other Reaction -Cairo radio cited Egyptian Defense Minister Lt Gen 'Abd al-'Halim Abu Ghazalah as denying Libyan claims that Egypt had conducted maneuvers along the Libyan b der to link up with the U.S. 6th Fleet maneuvers. He said the Egyptian Armed Forces have no training programs this month and that Egypt has no connection with the Gulf of Sidra incident.

Other monitored Middle East reaction has been strongly critical of the U.S. action. In a statement broadcast by Madrid radio, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, said the U.S. behavior does not serve Arab-U.S. relations and counters efforts to improve them. The PDRY Government in a statement carried by Aden radio, condemned "this arrogant and aggressive incident," and Damascus radio quoted Syrian Foreign Minister Abd al-Halim Khaddam as telling the Libyans that Syria considers every attack on Libya to be tantamount to an attack on Syria. According to INA, Iraq has also asserted its support for Libya against U.S. "aggression," and Amman radio quoted the Jordanian newspaper AR-RA'Y as describing the incident as a U.S. "act of piracy" that must "not go unpunished." Gulf newspapers, reviewed by the GULF NEWS AGENCY and EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY, were also critical of the United States. The EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY quoted AL-WAHDAN and AL-KHALIHU as calling on Arab states to cut off oil to the United States and withdraw Arab assets from U.S. banks.

PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat sent Al-Qadhdhafi a cable, Tripoli's Voice of the Arab Homeland radio reported, in which he praised the Libyans for firing the "first Arab bullet" at U.S. forces and "forcing" them to suspend their maneuvers. Tehran radio's Arabic service reported that 160 Majlis deputies sent a message to Al-Qadhdhafi denouncing the U.S. action and the "appeasement" of U.S. imperialism by "capitulatory" Muslim leaders.

Iraq

At the conclusion of Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz' 19 to 20 August talks in Paris with French leaders, AFP radio reported that the French Government had agreed in principle to help Iraq rebuild its nuclear reactor, but on the condition that guarantees be given that it would be used strictly for civilian purposes. AFP also reported that Minister of State for Foreign Trade Michel Jobert is to go to Baghdad on 3-4 October to negotiate the particulars with the Iraqi Government.

Iran

Demand for Hijackers Reiterated--Paris radio, citing an Interior Ministry communique, said the commandos responsible for seizing the Iranian gunboat had undergone examination by the French authorities and a decision had been reached to allow them to stay in France. The radio later reported that the 22-member commando force had apparently been released. An Iranian Foreign Ministry statement carried by Tehran radio reiterated the Iranian Government's demand that the commandos be turned over to it, adding that otherwise the world would think France had conspired with the United States and Morocco in a plot to seize the vessel. The statement warned France against not issuing a list of the commandos' names and nationalities, noting that if a list were not issued it might suggest involvement by non-Iranians, including Frenchmen, in the act. Subsequently, AFP indicated that a French Foreign Ministry announcement identified all members of the hijack force as Iranian nationals.

Mojahedin Headquarters Attacked--Revolution guards attacked a major Mojahedin-e Khalq center west of Tehran, according to revolution guards statements broadcast by Tehran radio. The attack lasted most of the morning and into the afternoon and resulted in the death of 3 leftists and the arrest of 16 others.

Iraq-Iran Conflict

Tehran radio's Arabic service reported that Iranian forces on the Ilam front succeeded in regaining Iranian territory previously lost to the Iraqis. The radio said the Iraqis suffered 150 dead and lost 18 tanks in the operation.

Jordanian-Israeli Relations

Talks Held--Tel Aviv's paper DAVAR, citing the French weekly VENDREDI SAMEDI DIMANCHE, said secret talks were held during July in Yugoslavia between Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Israeli Government representatives on the possibility of Jordan's joining the Camp David peace process.

Lebanon

Voice of Lebanon radio accused the Syrians and Palestinians of aggravating the security situation in Beirut by firing artillery across the contact lines during the afternoon. Later, Beirut radio reported a state of caution in the capital after the shelling.

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KARMAL ADDRESSES PARTY CONTROL SEMINAR 19 AUG

LD201116 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 Aug 81

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, this morning received officials of the capital and provinces who are participating in a party control seminar. The meeting which took place at the Gol Khanah Palace, headquarters of the Revolutionary Council, was held in a free, sincere and democratic atmosphere.

Babrak Karmal congratulated the participants of the seminar on the country's independence day--this day of pride for the people of Afghanistan. He added: Our ancestors, despite backward conditions, defeated the greatest imperialist country on this day because of their national pride; we honor our heroic Afghan ancestors as their [word indistinct] sons.

Babrak Karmal said he regarded the results of the party control seminar as successful, and added: Members of the party control committees have responsibility for an immense and heavy historical mission in the present circumstances of our country. In fact, inspection and control determines the party's destiny. If it is followed in a right and principled manner, the party is successful and victorious; but, if mistakes and deviations occur, the party will face defeat.

He then said: Comrades, you must be good natured, conscientious and have knowledge of all Plenum resolutions, methods and party documents. You should be in control of your duties in practice. You are carrying out a relentless and thorough duty day and night; therefore, you must be very aware and well-informed. You should be a symbol of good character, high morality, pride, honor, have the highest conscience and a clean spirit. I fully and honestly believe our comrades possess these values and spirits.

In aother part of his speech, Babrak Karmal said: I hope you never forget this principle: that our party is lawful and f ges ahead on the basis of society's evolutionary law. It leads and guides the revolution of Afghanistan's toilers.

Babrak Karmal referred to the intrigues, plots and interference in our country's internal affairs by the enemies of the Sawr Revolution, and said: Today, international imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism in collaboration with Chinese hegemonism, the militarist circles of Pakistan and regional reaction, have endangered peace in the region under the pretext of the so-called Afghanistan question. They misuse this question as a pretext against detente, peace, disarmament and human dignity.

We must foil these enemy conspiracies, secure peace in our country and eliminate as soon as possible the remnant of bandits sent from abroad who perpetrate terrorism and murder in our beloved country. We must build a new democratic and blossoming society. Babrak Karmal once more drew the attention of party comrades to humbleness and party Babrak Karmal once more drew the attention of party comrades to humbleness and party virtue, and said in conclusion: It is our duty to consolidate all our forces. We are the pioneers of the workers' revolution in Afghanistan. We have no right to think about personal glory. We work and struggle for the sake of prosperity for present and future generations of our country and the construction of a new and blossoming Afghanistan. We must be ready for all kinds of self-sacrifice and devotion.

On behalf of party officials, Vice Chairman of the PDPA Central Committee Party Control Commission Aziz Majidzada expressed thanks and appreciation for the meeting with Babrak Karmal. He said: Let me assure you that officials of the party control committees will bear in mind the valuable guidance given by Babrak Karmal, and will make it their guideline for action.

ANTI-INDIAN DEMONSTRATIONS CONTINUE IN DACCA

BK141258 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 14 Aug 81

[Text] Anti-Indian demonstrations have again started in Dacca. Two groups of demonstrators came near the Indian High Commission yesterday to protest against the Indian stand on the new Moore Island and on the issue of the Dahagram enclave. One group became unruly and police made a lathi charge and burst teargas shells to disperse it.

The Indian high commissioner in Dacca, Dubey, has said that demonstrations would make the solution of outstanding bilateral problems more difficult. He called at the Bangladesh Foreign Office a number of times in the past few days to apprise it of the present situation in the Dahagram enclave. Dubey also conveyed India's prompt acceptance of the Bangladesh Government's request to facilitate supplies to the enclave even though India feels that this is not necessary.

FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL DENIES INDIAN PRESS REPORT

BK210910 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman in Dacca today categorically rejected as totally baseless recent Indian press reports on a possible visit of a defense delegation from Pakistan and also on an alleged circular of the Foreign Ministry to all Bangladesh missions abroad. The spokesman described the report as totally baseless when his attention was drawn to an Indian newspaper item that a Pakistan defense delegation is arriving in Dacca very soon to discuss and finalize [words indistinct] supply of military hardware. The newspaper also reported that the Bangladesh Foreign Ministry has issued a circular signed by Secretary Matiur Rahman directing all Bangladesh missions about their behavior with Pakistani (?diplomats).

The spokesman said the Bangladesh Foreign Ministry never had nor has any [words indistinct] nor has the ministry issued any such circular.

OFFICIAL DISCUSSES RECENT IRAQI, KUWAITI VISITS

BK191035 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Text] Iraq and Kuwait have assured Bangladesh of all possible assistance for economic development. This was stated by Deputy Prime Minister S.A. Bari on his return to Dacca today after a weeklong visit to the two countries.

Talking to newsmen at the airport, he said President Saddam Husayn expressed his keen desire to strengthen political and economic cooperation between the two countries when he called on the Iraqi president during his stay in Baghdad. Bari, who is in charge of the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestocks, said he had signed a 1-year protocol with Iraq for deep sea fishing. Under the protocol, Iraq will provide trawlers and other necessary implements for deep sea fishing in the Bay of Bengal.

The deputy prime minister said Kuwait has shown keen interest in the cultivation of sweet water shrimp, livestock and poultry on a joint venture basis, both in the private and public sectors. A high-power Kuwaiti team will come to Bangladesh soon to explore the possibilities of such projects.

In Kuwait, Bari had talks with the amir and the crown prince.

PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY FOR TALKS WITH CHINA

BK201310 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Text] Preparations for official-level meetings between India and China later this year are being made in consultation with the Chinese Government. This was stated by Minister for External Affairs P.V. Narasimha Rao in a written reply in the Lok Sabha today. He said it has been India's stand that progress in India-China relations cannot be complete as long as the boundary question remains unresolved. The Chinese have accepted our basic proposition. At the same time, India has made it clear that the settlement of the boundary question is not a precondition for developing relations in other fields. Rao said that after preliminary discussions, which will be conducted by the Indian ambassador in Beijing, India will send a delegation for talks within the next few months.

RAO INFORMS PARLIAMENT ON PAKISTAN, SRI LANKA

BK210929 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 21 Aug 81

[Text] India has asked Pakistan to refrain from any action which can cause a setback to sincere efforts that are being made by her to normalize relations with that country. External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao, in a written answer, told the Rajya Sabha today that the government has been disturbed about the reports that had been appearing in Pakistani press in the last few weeks which had tried to misrepresent facts and portrayed in a negative (?light). These include false reports about so-called Indian plans to launch an Israeli-type attack on Pakistan's nuclear facilities, secret meeting between Mr Rao and President Karmal and allegations about large-scale acquisition of arms by India.

In reply to another question, Narasimha Rao said that India's concern about the scale and level of sophistication of the arms proposed to be acquired by Pakistan has been conveyed in no uncertain terms to the government of that country.

Mr Rao also told the Rajya Sabha that the situation in Sri Lanka is improving and that tension is slowly getting defused. Replying to a calling-attention motion raised by M. Kalyansundaram, CPI, and 21 others, Mr Rao said the Indian High Commission in Sri Lanka has done its best to help the affected Indian nationals. The government has received reports that about 4,100 refugees are in various refugee camps. Sharing the deep concern expressed by most of the opposition members who spoke on the issue, the external affairs minister welcomed suggestions from them toward the course of action the government may take on this case.

TARAPUR CAPACITY UTILIZATION TO BE INCREASED

BK200921 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Text] The Rajya Sabha was informed today that efforts are being made to increase the capacity utilization of the Tarapur plant. The minister of state for science and technology said the possibility of using indigenous mixed oxide fuel is being looked into. He ruled out the possibility of getting enriched uranium from any other country till the treaty with the United States regarding the plant exists. Talks are going on with that country about the supply of enriched uranium for the plant. In reply to the main question, the prime minister said the capacity utilization of the plant was 49 percent during 1980-81. The performance is comparable to that of similar reactors in other parts of the world. Efforts are on to improve its operations, she added.

ZIAUL HAQ ADDRESSES RALLY IN BARIAN 19 AUG

GF191632 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 Aug 81

[Excerpts] President Ziaul Haq has paid great tribute to the nation for celebrating Pakistan's 34th Independence Anniversary with such great gusto and fervor. He said that those nations that forget their ancestors' sacrifices after they have gained independence do not live long.

He was speaking at a large public rally in Barian this afternoon. The rally was attended by councillors of municipalities in Murree and Hazara Districts and local citizens.

The president stressed that the people should rely on themselves in developing their areas and should not depend on the government for everything.

The president said he had assumed control of the country because he felt certain responsibilities and thought he could carry out these duties with the help of the people. He said that if he ever comes to them asking for votes they should reject him outright. The president said the people should exercise healthy and constructive criticism of the government and should expect the government to solve their problems, because the people and the government are two wheels on the same cart. One has the responsibility of running the country, while the other has the responsibility of ensuring that these duties are carried out properly.

BRIEFS

NEW UAE ENVOY--Mr Sa'id 'Ali an-Nuways, the new ambassador of the UAE to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, presented his credentials to Pakistan President Mohammad Ziaul Haq on Sunday [16 August]. Accepting the credentials, President Zia expressed the hope that the friendly relations between the two countries would strengthen. He extended greetings to His Highness President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and His Highness Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, vice president and prime minister of UAE and ruler of Dubai, and the people of UAE for continued prosperity. [Excerpt] [Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 19 Aug 81 p 3 GF]

GUARDS DISCOVER MAJOR MOJAHEDIN COMMAND CENTER

LD201950 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Communique issued on 20 August by the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Muslim and vigilant Iranian nation: As you were informed this morning, your sons who are guarding Islam, brothers from the Islamic Revolution Committee, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Mobilization of the Oppressed, with the permanent presence of the 36-million-strong intelligence organization, managed to discover and destroy one of the hypocrites organization's [Mojahedin-e Khalq] major command and coordination centers for terrorist and sabotage activities. In this connection, the following points are brought to the attention of our vigilant nation:

In this corruption center and in its vicinity, 15 organizers, leaders and planners of terrorist and sabotage activities have been arrested thus far and three others were punished by the divine anger and died.

In the course of these operations, which started at 0730 this morning and lasted until 1400, documents were found which indicated the particulars of some other dens of corruption and terrorist operations of the enemies of God and the Muslim people.

Quantities of 'Uzi, G-3 and Kalashnikov-type weapons, together with a number of grenades and explosives, were seized by our vigilant brothers from these centers. The owner of this Mafia house is a person named Mohsen Navadem, an important member of this communal den. According to information received, illegitimate relations [nomashru'a] have been frequent in this center. In the course of the operations, our vigilant and aware compatriots gave the utmost cooperation to their children and did not refuse any self-sacrifice or devotion. This reminds one of the deep and ever-lasting unity of the Muslim nation in the days of the revolution's victory.

Also, last night, following the continuous activities of our brothers, an element belonging to the counterrevolutionary groups and having in his possession quantities of Molotov cocktails and explosives was arrested. The documents found on the aforesaid state that a plan to explode the Oppressed Foundation was also a part of the terrorist and antidivine activities of these minigroups.

Further reports will be brought to the attention of the beloved compatriots in subsequent communiques.

[Signed] The Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

FURTHER SUCCESSES AGAINST 'HYPOCRITES' REPORTED

Discovery in Khomeynishahr

LD171151 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] PARS reports that brother guards, with the people's cooperation, recently discovered in Khomeynishahr a network connected with the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] and arrested its members. Citing an informed official of the Khomeynishahr Islamic Revolution Court, this report adds: A large quantity of documents was seized from the 12 people who had gone to Khomeynishahr from Shiraz and Kazerun.

The Central News Unit reports that the Public Relations Office of the Rudsar Guards Corps has announced that a patrol group from its operational unit searched the houses of twp Rudsar landowners, (Amanolla Khan-e Sufi-Amlashi) and (Hesamoddin Sufi-Amlashi), and discovered 7 Brnos, 1 revolver, approximately 2,000 rounds of ammunition for these fire-arms, 3 pairs of binoculars, several wine bottles, documents providing evidence of their cooperation with the late shah, gambling equipment and books related to the monarchy. The above-mentioned owners were arrested.

PARS reports that last night one terrorist was killed and another was arrested in possession of several firearms in an armed confrontation between the brother guards of Gorgan. Citing the Gorgan Governorate Public Relations Office, this report says that after the armed clash between the Gorgan brother guards and the assailants, the one was arrested with a bullet wound in his leg, and the other was blown to bits when a grenade, which he was intending to throw at the brother guards while he was escaping, exploded in his hand. The same report notes that the brother guards captured an Uzi firearm with a full magazine, a revolver and several grenades and returned safely to base.

'Hypocrites' Arrested in Sari

LD201413 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, at 0500 this morning officers of the Central Islamic Revolution Committee in Sari, following a previous search discovered a communal house belonging to the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] and with cooperation of the brother guards, in a military operation which lasted about 3 hours, arrested three residents of this house. Brothers of the committee and the corps were not harmed during the clash. Our brothers seized a large number of cartridges, several G-3 rifles, several Molotov cocktails, copying and typing machines, men's and women's clothing, equipment for printing books, leaflets and publications of the hypocrites organization about the assassination of several Muslim brothers.

More Arrests

LD201424 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Text] PARS reports that a hypocrites [Mojahedin-e Khalq] reconnaissance group with the mission of identifying committed individuals and believers in the revolution, was arrested while trying to attack a Central Committee patrol unit. Members of the group were handed over to the Islamic revolution prosecutor's office in Tehran.

The same report says that yesterday two hypocrites, who were also members of a several-man group for identifying committed individuals, were arrested by the guards on the (Modarres) motorway while trying to throw handgrenades at a patrol group of the Central Islamic Revolution Committee. A Colt with 22 cartridges and 1 handgrenade were seized from these individuals and, following preliminary interrogations, the person in charge of this group was also arrested. A large amount of military equipment was seized from this person's house. This group has been involved in several grenade-throwing operations, car theft and attacks on the public.

BAHONAR, KHOMEYNI SPEECHES AT CABINET MEETING

LD201523 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Excerpts] President Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i and Prime Minister Dr Mohammad Javad Bahonar, accompanied by members of the Cabinet, were received by Imam Khomeyni, leader of Iran, at the imam's residence this morning, in order to introduce the Cabinet. A Cabinet meeting was held in the presence of the imam.

According to a report, President Raja'i was the first to speak. Addressing the imam of the nation, Mr Raja'i said: One of our greatest wishes has come true; a group of people have gathered together who are organized, think alike and are coordinated, in order to serve Islam and the Islamic Republic. You have received them. If you please, Mr Bahonar will submit a report, so that we may be privileged with your instructions.

Mr Banohar then submitted a report to the imam, and the imam of the nation issued the necessary instructions. We can draw your attention to the proceedings of this session:

[Begin Bahonar recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. It was a great honor, considering the conditions that prevailed under Your Excellency's leadership and guidance and the people's solidarity, that we could speedily leave behind our [word indistinct] stages, and the selection of various organizations: the election of the president, which took place on time--within the time limit allowed by the Constitution; then, with the decisive vote cast by the people, they showed their presence on the scene of the revolution and their support for Islam; then, the introduction of the prime minister to the Majlis--again this took place within the legal time limit; and then, the appointment of the Cabinet members and their introduction to the Majlis. It was the first time that we--with the help of God--introduced 22 ministers at the same time to the Majlis.

The vote of confidence given by the Majlis showed that the Majlis was completely in unison, and that it could be in coordination with the new government. At the same time, the difference in the number of votes showed the freedom of every deputy to freely choose the ministers. By chance, it was a good thing that it was proposed they should vote for each minister separately. As Your Excellency knows, the Cabinet members received between 119 and 163 votes in favor. This shows that the deputies freely gave more votes for someone they liked, and in cases where there was (?some doubt), they abstained or voted against.

At the same time, the speed was interesting--thank God--that exactly within the 10 days we were allowed to introduce the Cabinet, it was done. And the day that the Majlis voted was the tenth day after the appointment of the prime minister. Therefore, this was carried out within the legal time limit, without any delay.

Regarding the selection of these brothers, we tried very hard so that individuals, committed, Muslim, faithful to the revolution and the policy of the imam, and also experienced and well versed in their own field. [sentence as heard]

Fortunately, the social conditions are very favorable; the ground is prepared; the people's attitude toward the Cabinet members is very amiable, sympathetic and kind. In our contacts with society, the people clearly [words indistinct]. Fortunately, under the leadership of our great imam, we have a Majlis which is united; the deputies are representative of the people, and the policy of Islam and the Imam; we have a president who is very much liked, and is very popular with the oppressed (?classes). They like their president very much. And this government belongs to the people.

Therefore, our burden is very heavy. What we expect from Your Eminence [words indistinct]. After this, society will say: Now, there is no negative element among you; there is no hindrance. The serious opposition fronts have left the scene, and society, the surroundings and the system have been cleansed for Islam and for the main line of the revolution. Therefore, we are expected to work very hard, to have a great role in safeguarding our revolution and the advancement of affairs. Of course, God willing, we shall do everything within our power; we shall perform our duty. But, considering the weight of the burden and the problems that face us--one of which is the war; another is security, which with God's help will be solved; (?the consequences) of the war from an economic viewpoint; foreign currency issues and the shortage of our foreign currency; the delays in the implementation of many of our development projects; the earthquake, which was a fresh incident and (?caused some damage); and such problems, all these are loads that have been placed on the government's shoulder. [sentence as heard]

However, with the joy and hope that I see in the faces of our brothers, they are ready to tackle the problems, with God's help. I expect them to follow Your Excellency's instructions so that--God willing--they can perform their duty with better morale. [end recording]

[Begin Khomeyni recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The issues raised by the prime minister in his speech are all correct. In the meantime, God willing, I hope you will be successful in your mission. However, the people expect action instead of drawing up plans. You no longer have any excuses. We no longer have any excuses. During this past period there were excuses and now there are also excuses. The people so far have fulfilled their debt to the Islamic Republic. By their own will the people have acted. God willing, we too will respond to the people. The people have enthusiastically voted for the president--and they have rightly done so because they consider the president as one of them.

The situation now is such that it is Islamic in nature, everything stems from the people themselves and the government and executive have risen from society itself and are intent on working for society itself. Praise be to God, they are all committed Muslims and are also determined to serve. All this is fine, but in practice we should display positive action. The people have worked hard, they have worked hard and often made scarifices without having many expectations.

However, Islam has certain expectations from us and we must carry out our obligations to the faith. [Words indistinct] these people have done their work, and to be absolutely fair, one should say that the one who has carried out his tasks 100 percent from the beginning of the revolution to the present time is the nation. It has carried out its tasks 100-percent well. Throughout all the difficulties it agreed with the government. Where else with a war taking place would the people themselves get up from the other side of the realm and hasten to give help, to get things done behind the battlefront?

(?The strength of such faith) belongs to Islam. The people, who have been committed Muslims and have had Islamic beliefs, deemed themselves dutybound to safeguard their own country and render help to the gentlemen.

Now, it is the turn of the gentlemen, in return for all the hard work which the people have done, and all the affection which they have displayed, and acts of self-sacrifice which they have carried out. It is now the turn of the gentlemen. [words indistinct]

Conscience dictates we should work for the good of the realm, for the good of Islam, for the benefit of these masses and for the benefit of these people who are present on all the fronts. You should all extend a hand to one another. Things should not be such that, for instance, the president has to take a back seat and leave everything to the government. (?This could never be so and I know it.) The president himself knows that the government is his own, the realm is his own, and that he is working for himself. All the ministries, when they see it is essential, should help, should do their utmost. They are not alienated from one another so that they (?cannot cooperate with one another). Whenever a problem crops up for any one of you, the people are prepared to act. It is now your turn to repay your debt to the people who have put you in office. Fulfill your duties to the people.

One of the important issues is the problem of those individuals who are in the ministries, individuals who might be there but (?do not help), people who apart from not serving are also carrying out sabotage. There are people who, in order to make something and obtain a salary, continue to nag and some might commit acts of sabotage. Well such people should be identified and such individuals should even be removed, provided you deem such action expedient.

The embassies abroad, too, constitute an important task. Right from the inception of the Islamic Republic, right from the very first day, I told the foreign minister that these embassies should be purged and put right. Those people who went there, saw things for themselves and then came back found that the same state of affairs that prevailed in the past was still prevailing, with minor changes. These embassies represent the good name of the Islamic state, and if these embassies are bad the people abroad will think it is we who are bad. When they see that an embassy is not in the hands of an Islamic government, is not in the hands of Islam, its state of affairs being the self-same Satanic one of the past, they will draw the conclusion that the country is the same. One of the important tasks is that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs should do its job and be serious in this business.

You can no longer make the excuse that you wanted to do something but so and so did not allow it. In the past, they used to make the excuse that we could not appoint a foreign minister--and I think that was one of those things which was not put right to the end, and a foreign minister was not appointed. It was possible, too, that the tasks were continually sabotaged. These problems no longer exist, praise be to God.

The reins are in your hands, and you should serve this nation and consider yourselves as the servants of the people. If you think to yourselves: I am a minister and the people should obey me, you should know that you have not been reformed. If the president were to think: I am the first person in the realm, and suchlike, this would not be Islam; such thoughts emanate from Satan. I know he does not act with such thoughts, but even mentally let him not entertain such ideas and let him expunge them. You, too, are the servants of this realm and are the servants of this nation, and it is a blessing for this nation that the hand of the transgressors has been cut short and the malevolent imperial regime, which was wrong from the beginning, has disappeared. The realm has fallen into your hands, you who are from the people themselves and are with the people.

The important thing is that in action you should properly purge the ministries of such individuals who are really bent on preventing things being done, and who wish to make the people disgruntled. Of course, there are such people who wish to make people disgruntled. You should purge these people. If you were to wish to make everyone happy in every single action you take, you would not succeed. This is because in every action--if that were in the nature of a purge--the purged group would turn into opponents, and the friends of those who are purged also become opponents. You should fix your sights on the fact that you have a position. In view of the religious, divine duties which are incumbent on you, you should serve in that position, since it is an instrument for serving the people. In itself it is nothing. If you serve the people a position is useful and good, but if you cannot then a position is nothing.

I pray, God willing, that the Almighty will grant you success. [end recording]

RAFSANJANI SCORES FRENCH, U.S. GOVERNMENTS

GF201324 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0535 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Speech by Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani in 20 August Majlis session--live]

[Excerpt] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Concerning the current international situation, the gentlemen of the Majlis have been informed that yesterday an American F-16 [as heard] aircraft shot down two Sukhoi aircraft belonging to the Muslim Libyan nation. Prior to this, there was the incident of the hijacking of our patrol boat in Spanish waters and the acceptance of the pirates in French ports. France is still resisting our just request to return the pirates. It is clear that Western imperialism has begun a widespread plot to crush the roots of the Islamic foundations in the region.

On the subject of the downing of the Libyan aircraft, no excuse can be given for this action by U.S. colonialism, which had no reason for carrying out this aggression. We strongly condemn this aggression.

Concerning the acceptance of the pirates, France must prepare an answer that it can use to ensure its security in the future. If France says it can do what it wants with its laws, then what type of law is there in the world that will grant asylum to thieves and say they are political refugees or some such thing? If stealing a boat and kidnapping a group of national officials is not theft, then what is it? What can it be called? These people are thieves and are being sought by police in Iran for thievery. Their acts of embezzlement and criminal acts are in their files, and they have committed a robbery there [in Spain]. Now France wants to cover up their actions.

So as of now, each nation or each government can have a law by which it can grant asylum to thieves from other countries. From now on, if your ships or boats are hijacked in Persian Gulf waters and we decided to support these thieves and robbers, how can you protest? You are not alone in the world. There are others who can do similar things. Anyway, I warn the French Government to pay attention to the consequences of such political trickery.

As you have seen, the Iranian Government seized a Danish ship carrying arms to Iraq while it was in Iranian waters, emptied the arms load, released the ship into international waters and ensured its security. Iraq is at war with us. These arms were going there and it was very natural for us to seize them. This is the right of a country at war. What an international uproar the West made over such a clear and just act. The Kuwaiti Government has the right to seize a load of arms going to a country at war with us when these arms are in a vessel that is inside our own waters.

The West's aggressive operations cannot be compared with this operation, and we hope the world will realize our just position and the unjust attitude of our enemies.

MAJLIS DEPUTIES SEND MESSAGE TO AL-QADHADHAFI

GF210500 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 21 Aug 81

[Text] In a message to Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, 160 Majlis deputies denounced U.S. imperialism's aggression, its violation of territorial waters and airspace and the downing of two planes inside Libyan airspace.

In their message, the Majlis deputies say: The appeasement by some capitulatory leaders, who are hostile to their Muslim peoples, of U.S. imperialism will only bring them disgrace and humiliation. The world's oppressed are fully aware that the imperialists want other countries to be subservient to them; otherwise, they provoke these countries and confront them directly with war.

In their message the Majlis deputies urge all Muslim people to establish a unified front to liberate Jerusalem and resist imperialist aggression.

FOREIGN MINISTRY REPEATS DEMAND FOR 'PIRATES'

LD201812 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Statement issued by the Foreign Ministry on 20 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In the wake of a formal announcement by the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the pirates, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic once again declares that the French Government must hand the offenders over to the Iranian Government.

Any leniency by the French Government in this connection will result in encouraging piracy throughout the world and will also cause the rest of the world to regard the French Government as an accomplice of the United States and Morocco in this dangerous plot.

The Islamic Republic's Government warns that failure by the French Government to officially declare a complete list of the names of all the pirates and their nationalities suggests to the public mind that there is a plot to help these pirates escape, or that there are, possibly, certain other individuals from other countries, including France, involved in this plot.

TUDEH LEADER COMMENTS ON HIJACKING, OPPOSITION

NC201817 Paris AFP in English 1757 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Text] Paris, 20 Aug (AFP)--A leading member of Iran's communist party, the Tudeh, said here today that the hijacking of the Iranian gunboat Tabarzin by a monarchist commando had revealed the intrinsic weakness of his country's monarchists.

Amir Khosrovi, a member of the Tudeh Party's Central Committee, described the hijacking as "a publicity operation" meant to disguise the "desperate state" of the monarchist cause in Iran.

In an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, Mr Khosrovi, whose party is allied with Iran's ruling Islamic Republic Party, excluded any possibility for a restoration of the monarchy in his nation.

He conceded, on the other hand, that ex-President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr and Mas'ud Rajavi, leader of the leftwing Islamic Mojahedin, still had an audience in Iran and represented "an important political force." Both men live here in exile.

The main danger to the Iranian Republic, Mr Khosrovi went on, would arise if it failed to solve Iran's economic and social problems.

Tudeh, he said, supported the regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni "in its anti-imperialist, anti-American line and against the bourgeoisie and in favor of the disinherited." But he deplored some "excesses" in the current repression of oppositionists.

Mr Khosrovi is in Paris for medical reasons.

PALESTINIAN ENVOY MEETS WITH BAHONAR, OTHERS

GF201950 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Text] Salah az-Zawawi, Palestinian ambassador to Tehran, has held a series of meetings with officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He met with Prime Minister Mohammad Javad Bahonar, discussed bilateral relations and congratulated him on assuming his new post. He explained the latest developments in the Arab arena and the conspiracies being directed at the Palestinian revolution and its allies, the Lebanese National Movement. He also explained the details of the (?sixth) Palestinian-Zionist war.

Dr Bahonar stressed the Islamic revolution's firm stand in support of the Palestinian struggle and the importance of building up the Islamic front, which will unite the efforts of all Muslims in liberating Jerusalem and all of Palestine.

Az-Zawawi also met with Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Majlis speaker, and explained the dimensions of the U.S.-Zionist aggression aimed at the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian-Syrian-Lebanese (?alliance). He also explained the dimensions of the new political campaign led by U.S. imperialism.

It is trying to (?enlarge) the area controlled by UN forces in southern Lebanon, convert them into a deterrent force, belittle the Palestinian victory and obliterate its results. He also explained the Palestinian steadfastness in the occupied territories and the hope the Palestinian revolution places in the fraternal Islamic revolution, under the leadership of the great Imam Khomeyni, in order to bolster this steadfastness and escalate the armed struggle against the enemy.

Hashemi-Rafsan[illegible]i said the slogan "Today Iran, tomorrow Palestine" will be translated into pra[illegible]acts. He said Islamic support for the Palestinian revolution will be tangible.

Lavasani, director of the Office of Asian and African Political Affairs in the Foreign Ministry, also reviewed the latest political developments in the area and the Islamic Republic's sincere position toward the Palestinian struggle under the leadership of the PLO.

OIL MINISTER SPEAKS AT GENEVA PRESS CONFERENCE

GF191044 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 19 Aug 81

[Text] At a press conference held before OPEC's extraordinary meeting, Oil Minister Gharavi said: Iran will not kneel to the pressures being exercised to set oil prices at less than $36 per barrel. He said: During intensive talks with oil ministers we asserted that the buried shah agreed to lower the price of oil in 1961, thus provoking the curse of the world's oppressed and [word indistinct]. The only way to foil Western conspiracies is to remain steadfast.

On the reduced demand for oil, because of the glut in the oil market, the minister said: For 4 years, Iran has dropped production by 6 million barrels and for 1 year, Iraq has dropped its oil production by 3 million barrels. How can we accept that oil is less in demand now? These are rumors only, and we will soon see how such tendentious rumors and plots will be foiled.

Replying to a question on when OPEC will reach a special formula on oil pricing, Mr Gharavi said: OPEC has been trying to reach such a formula for 10 years. However, when OPEC adopts a strong political stand, it will be able to make a positive initiative.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER LEADS DELEGATION TO DPRK

LD202238 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Excerpt] Mr Mohammad Salamati, the agriculture minister, left tonight for Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK, together with a delegation of agricultural and industrial officials in order to take part in a seminar on increasing agricultural production.

According to a report by a Central News Unit correspondent, about 100 nonaligned and developing countries will take part in this 6-day seminar, which will start at the end of next week.

On the eve of the departure of the Iranian delegation to Pyongyang, Cha Pyong-ok, the DPRK ambassador, speaking in a radio and television interview, told our correspondent that the nonaligned and developing countries struggling against imperialism, in particular U.S. imperialism, will take part in the seminar. These countries will negotiate and exchange views on increasing agricultural products and the principles of mutual cooperation. He added that the Iranian delegation, led by the agriculture minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, during its visit to Korea will also hold talks about cooperation between the two countries.

JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 608 REPORTS ON FIGHTING

LD201900 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Communique 608 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Islamic Iranian combatants continue their relentless operations on all battlefronts, dealing heavy blows to the enemy, thus creating more pride and honor for Islam. Here follow details of some of the operations over the past 24 hours:

Exchange of artillery and mortar fire continue between our forces and those of the enemy in the country's western sector. On the Sumar, Meymak, [name indistinct], Shur-e Shirin and Ganjideh fronts, the firing was heavier than on other fronts in the west. Yesterday afternoon the enemy, using artillery and tanks, brought our units in Sumar under fire. However, our forces returned the fire and silenced the enemy fire. Moreover, at 1000 today the enemy opened heavy fire, intending to advance on one of the fronts but, in the face of heavy-artillery and mortar fire by our brave combat units, the aggressive forces were driven back.

Meanwhile, two mortar bunkers and their ammunition, as well as several other bunkers, were destroyed in Shur-e Shirin by gendarmerie mortar fire and supporting artillery fire.

In the southern part of the country the Islamic combatants continued their operations which began on 18 August in order to consolidate their positions on hill No 350 at Dasht-e 'Abbas in the Dezful area and destroyed 14 enemy tanks and personnel carriers belonging to the enemy. Our combatants are in control of hill No 350 and the adjacent areas in the region and are defending them.

A number of burnt-out foxholes belonging to Saddam's mercenaries are quite visible on the hill. Meanwhile, some light and heavy equipment has been left behind by the enemy. On another front to the west of Dezful, one tank, six emplacements and one enemy vehicle were totally destroyed by our artillery fire, with four more tanks being partly damaged. In the course of these operations 21 Iraqi military personnel were killed and 75 wounded.

On the Mahshahr and Abadan fronts, 2 defensive positions, 18 machinegun and observation posts, 2 munition dumps, 1 personnel carrier, 1 loader, 2 vehicles and 1 building used by Iraqi forces were smashed and destroyed by our heavy firing and a number of aggressors were killed.

However, following enemy fire on Abadan's residential areas, some damage and casualties were suffered by the heroic inhabitants of that town. On the Darkhovin and As-Sulaymaniyah fronts our combatants opened heavy fire on the enemy and destroyed one munition dump, one loader, two bulldozers and one enemy fieldgun.

In the past 24 hours, our antiaircraft guns are reported to have driven back four Iraqi planes trying to violate the airspace of our southern and western fronts.